

Although he served a 5-year stint in the Marine Corps, 17 years in the restaurant business and a few more in partnership with former NFL greats Mel Renfro and Darryl Lamonica putting together contracts, his first love is ranching, Hays says.

On his home place in Unity, about 60 miles west of the Idaho border, hays runs about 3,000 head of cattle on 23,000 privately owned acres and 80,000 acres owned by the federal government. His family has operated the Rouse ranch since the 1850s, he says.

Hays argues that society has mixed up its priorities.

'I see it in the logging industry in my hometown.' 'One fellow there had 30 some people employed there. It kept the town going. He had to let them go. Now our town's full of drugs. Some have had to leave. . . . It hurts your kids, it hurts your schools, your community.'

So, says Hays, does the Endangered Species Act.

'Why is a fish dominant over everything else?' he queries. 'People are taking this ESA and using it as a tool to get what they want.'

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. LYNN N. RIVERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2000*

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, the following is a list of votes that I missed while in Michigan recuperating from surgery. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 2—H. Con. Res 244—"yes"; Rollcall No. 3—H.R. 2130—"yes"; Rollcall No. 4—H.R. 764—"yes"; Rollcall No. 5—H.R. 1838—"yes"; Rollcall No. 6—Instructing Conferees on H.R. 2990—"yes"; and Rollcall No. 7—H.R. 2005—"no."

IN HONOR OF MAURY MEYERS,  
MAYOR OF BEAUMONT

#### HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2000*

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Maury Meyers, who will be receiving the Jay C. Crager Award from the American Heart Association. This award is given to outstanding citizens who have distinguished themselves with unselfish civic responsibility and community service. It is fitting that Maury Meyers is receiving this award because he has dedicated his life to serving his community.

Maury meets the description of a leader, he has been involved with every aspect of the community, and taught us as a community to believe in ourselves. Maury has contributed so much to the community of Beaumont and the people who live there. He believes in Beaumont and its residents, and has unfalteringly placed his time and energy into its progress.

Maury's first two terms as Mayor, from 1978–1982, changed the face of Beaumont and the character of the community through unparalleled initiatives. Maury returned to the Mayor's office in 1986 and faced a city that was suffering economically and was experiencing problems in the public and private sectors.

The problem of economic recovery and the creation of jobs was Maury's top priority upon his return to office, he wanted to invigorate Beaumont and the people who lived there. To address this problem, he created the "Worlds Largest Economic Development Committee" when 8,000 residents of all ages and walks of life filled the Beaumont Civic Center to participate in an economic summit.

Maury Meyers is a people person, and he took that spirit to the Mayor's office. He believed that everybody had a role and a voice in their community, and during his time in office hundreds of private citizens served on city-appointed advisory committees, neighborhood town-hall meetings and public hearings. An organization known as "Planning Economic Progress" was created by Maury and brought labor and management together on issues affecting commercial and industrial growth, as well as community development.

The Texas Energy Museum is in Beaumont because of Maury's hard work and perseverance. Competition for the museum between Beaumont and other major cities and Universities was fierce, and conditions made it necessary to organize a strictly private effort. In just a few days, he was able to raise more than \$1 million and brought the museum to Beaumont. He also founded the Southeast Texas Inc., a non-profit organization focusing on innovative regional economic development.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to speak on behalf of Mr. Maury Meyers and all of his accomplishments. He is a man that I look to for inspiration as I continue to work for the communities and neighborhoods of Texas. While I can not be with him when he receives his award, I am proud to recognize him on the floor of the House. He is a man who has committed his life not to himself, but to the people of Southeast Texas.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. TOM COFFEY

#### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2000*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that the residents of Maries County, Missouri, are gathering to honor one of their leading citizens, Mr. Tom Coffey, on his 94th birthday.

Mr. Coffey has a long history of public service. He began by volunteering to defend his country in the European Theater during World War II. After the war, he returned to Vienna and has remained a lifetime resident. He adopted the people of the city of Vienna and Maries County and has made significant contributions to the community over the past 50 years. Mr. Coffey provided generous financial support to build a fire station in Vienna, donated land for a business development site and established three scholarships for graduates of Vienna High School. He also purchased land to build the American Legion Hall and then deeded the property to the city.

Additionally, Mr. Coffey has been the leading force behind the Maries County Fair for more than 40 years and was one of five citizens to establish the Old Jail and Historical Society. He is planning to continue to support the community for many years into the future as he has designated more than 30 organiza-

tions to receive annual grants from his trust. I am not surprised that the city of Vienna wants to express their gratitude to Mr. Coffey on the occasion of his 94th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I know all Members of Congress will join me in paying tribute to Mr. Coffey for his outstanding dedication to the community and selfless public service.

#### HONORING THE VILLAGE OF MONEE AND ITS QUASICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

#### HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2000*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the village of Monee and its quasicentennial celebration. The village of Monee was formed in the year 1874 and the residents of Monee have celebrated their 125 years of history with dozens of different events throughout the year 1999. It has been my great privilege and honor to serve the residents of Monee. I am pleased to recognize their strong and admirable sense of community pride.

The village of Monee, which lies in my 11th congressional district, is situated in northern Will County. Although the village is located less than 30 miles from the city of Chicago, the village has been able to maintain its small-town ambiance and sense of pride in its history and progress. Both the village and local organizations contribute time and money to hosting family-orientated events and activities.

The village of Monee was founded by Augustus Herbert in November of 1853 when he recorded his plat of land at the Will County Courthouse. The village is believed to be named for a French-Ottawa Indian woman, Marie LeFevre Bailly. The French called Marie "Mah-ree" but the Ottawa Indians had no sound for the letter "r" and called her "Mah-nee." French treaty clerks later wrote the name as "Mo-nee." The Indian princess, Marie was renowned as one of the most beautiful women in the northwest area. In 1833, the Treaty of Camp Tippecanoe made with the Pottawatomie Tribe made a gift of property to the four daughters of Marie and her husband Joseph Bailly. This gift of property is possibly the only connection between "Princess Monee" and the village named in her honor.

Today, the village of Monee has a growing population of approximately 1,044. The current village president is the Honorable Larry Kochel.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize other towns and villages in their own districts which are proudly celebrating special occasions.

#### THE PASSING OF DR. LAURA THOMPSON, A FRIEND OF THE CHAMORRO PEOPLE

#### HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2000*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mourn and pay tribute to the passing of a